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July 10, 1952

Middle East

Dear General Cabell:

At the State-JCS meeting yesterday Mr. Matthews stated that a letter was on its way to the Secretary of Defense concerning the proposals for a Middle East defense organization. I am sending a copy of this letter and its attachments to you for your information.

As you know, the British prepared proposals which they desire to circulate to the seven sponsoring powers and showed these proposals to the United States Government on an informal and confidential basis. As a result of several suggestions made by us, the draft British paper was revised during the recent conversations held by the Secretary of State in London. The revised proposals are set forth in SECTO 24 from London, dated 27 June 1952.

At the State-JCS meeting a week ago, on July 2, General Bradley handed Mr. Matthews, informally, a memorandum from the Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, and one from the Joint Strategic Survey Committee concerning the revised British proposals as they appear in the telegram mentioned above. As I mentioned to you yesterday, some comments on the two papers given to Mr. Matthews by General Bradley have been drafted in the Department of State. I am also enclosing these for your information.

Sincerely yours,

John H. Ferguson
Deputy Director,
Policy Planning Staff

Enclosures:
1. Letter to Secretary of Defense with attachments, dated July 9, 1952.
2. Comments on Memo. by the Chief of Staff, U.S. Army.
3. Comments on Report by Joint Strategic Survey Committee on MEDO.

Major General Charles P. Cabell,
Director, Joint Chief of Staff,
Pentagon.

S/P:JHFerguson:AVH

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